

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 201548
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-20
NSC-05 OES-09 OMB-01 L-03 /080 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:DCGOODMAN/LD
APPROVED BY EUR/NE:RLFUNSETH
EUR/NE:EJBEIGEL (SUBSTANCE)
-----019182 092241Z /73

P 092118Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 201548

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, NL

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MATERIALS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
CONTROL

1. BELOW IS TEXT OF STATEMENT ON THE NETHERLANDS FROM
THE 1977 EDITION OF THE UNCLASSIFIED BOOK ISSUED BY S/NM
ENTITLED QTE BRIEFING MATERIALS ON INTERNATIONAL
NARCOTICS CONTROL. UNQTE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO REVIEW
TEXT AND REDRAFT OR UPDATE AS NECESSARY FOR INCLUSION IN
1978 BRIEFING BOOK. RESPONSE BY AUGUST 15 WOULD BE
APPRECIATED IF POSSIBLE.

ILLCIT DRUG TRAFFIC

THE NETHERLANDS BECAME A SERIOUS PROBLEM AREA FOR NAR-
COTICS CONTROL ONLY IN LATE 1972, ALTHOUGH CANNABIS PRO-
DUCTS AND AMPHETAMINES WERE OBTAINABLE ON THE BLACK MARKET
BY PERSONS VISITING AMSTERDAM AND SEVERAL OTHER DUTCH
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CITIES. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF ILLICIT PROCESSING OF
NATCOTICS IN THE NETHERLANDS, BUT THE COUNTRY IS NOW
ACKNOWLEDGED AS A MAJOR TRANSHIPMENT CENTER FOR HEROIN IN
EUROPE. AMSTERDAM AND ROTTERDAM ARE SIGNIFICANT ENTRY
POINTS FOR NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS INTO EUROPE,
PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT

AMSTERDAM AND LARGE NUMBER OF SHIPS PASSING THROUGH THE TWO PORTS AS WELL AS THE NETHERLANDS' OPEN FRONTIERS PARTICULARLY WITH BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG. OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO U.S. MILITARY COMMAND IN GERMANY HAS BEEN USE OF THE NETHERLANDS AS TRANSHIPMENT POINT FOR HEROIN, CANNABIS PRODUCTS AND AMPHETAMINES REACHING U.S. MILITARY FORCES IN GERMANY.

DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS

COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT BETWEEN DUTCH, GERMAN AND U.S. AUTHORITIES TO DEAL WITH DANGEROUS DRUGS TRANSITING THE NETHERLANDS AND DESTINED FOR U.S. FORCES IN GERMANY. BELGIUM PASSED TOUGH NEW LEGISLATION IN 1975 AIMED AT DRUG TRAFFICKING, PARTICULARLY ACROSS THE OPEN BORDER BETWEEN BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS. WHILE THE DUTCH HAVE BEEN TOLERANT OF INDIVIDUAL USE OF CANNABIS PRODUCTS, THAT TOLERANCE DOES NOT APPLY TO TRAFFICKING IN HARD DRUGS. THE DUTCH PARLIAMENT IN 1976 PASSED LEGISLATION REDUCING PENALTY FOR POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF TRADITIONAL CANNABIS PRODUCTS BUT SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASING PENALTIES FOR TRAFFICKING IN HARD DRUGS. IN THE FALL OF 1975, THE DUTCH CREATED A SPECIAL COUNTRY-WIDE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT UNIT AS PART OF THE REVAMPING OF ITS DRUG CONTROL MACHINERY. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS HAS BEEN PLACED ON UNCLASSIFIED

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IMPROVED COOPERATION AND COORDINATION WITH LOCAL POLICE FORCES. IN ADDITION, POLICE ANTI-NARCOTICS PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN AUGMENTED, MANY ILLEGAL ALIENS ARRESTED ON NARCOTICS OFFENSES ARE BEING EXPELLED AND A DUTCH LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE NETHERLANDS EMBASSY IN BANGKOK.

THE NETHERLANDS IS A PARTY TO THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS OF 1961 BUT HAS NOT RATIFIED EITHER THE 1972 PROTOCOL TO AMEND THE SINGLE CONVENTION OR THE 1971 CONVENTION ON PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES. DUTCH AUTHORITIES HAVE SOMETIMES COOPERATED IN EXPULSION OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS WHEN REQUESTED BUT THERE IS NO PROVISION IN THE U.S.-NETHERLANDS EXTRADITION TREATY COVERING NARCOTICS OFFENSES. SINCE 1972 THE NETHERLANDS HAS CONTRIBUTED \$209,440 TO THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL IN THE FORM OF A SUBSIDY FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO A MAGAZINE CALLED DRUG DEPENDENCE.

U.S. PROGRAMS

THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE WHICH WAS

ESTABLISHED IN 1974 NOW NUMBERS THREE AGENTS. IN-COUNTRY

TRAINING OF DUTCH ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL WAS CONDUCTED IN
1975 BY BOTH DEA AND CUSTOMS AND IN 1976 BY DEA. DEA
HAS SCHEDULED FURTHER TRAINING FOR FY 1977. SUCH
TRAINING HAS BEEN WELCOMED AS PART OF AN OVERALL PROGRAM
INVOLVING THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON NARCOTICS CON-
TROL, ORGANIZATIONAL METHODS, LEGISLATION AND TREATMENT.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE201548
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DCGOODMAN/LD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780326-0773
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780881/aaaacpty.tel
Line Count: 127
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3fd7ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1788629
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING MATERIALS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL
TAGS: SNAR, NL
To: THE HAGUE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3fd7ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014